

Frederick Knefler certificate S1435

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Hunt, Union B., 1864-1915
Creator	Morris, J. W.
Creator	Mount, James A. (James Atwell), 1843-
Title	Frederick Knefler certificate
Date	1899
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1435

Preferred Citation

Frederick Knefler certificate, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Frederick Knefler was born on April 12, 1824, in Arad, Hungary. With his father Nathan Kneopfler, a Hungarian Jew and doctor, Frederick fought with the revolutionary forces during the Hungarian War of Liberation in 1848-1849. When they were defeated, the family came to the United States. His father was one of the original founders of the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation. Frederick was the highest ranking Jewish officer in the Union Army. Frederick was commissioned first lieutenant of the 11th Indiana Infantry when the war began. He was an aid to General Lew Wallace. In August 1862, Governor Morton appointed Frederick as colonel of the 79th Indiana Infantry. During the Battle of Missionary Ridge, Colonel Knefler led the unexpected charge up the center of the ridge. General Knefler fought at Shiloh, Stones River, Chickamauga, Atlanta, Franklin, and Nashville.

After the Civil War, Frederick became an attorney, served as head of the pension office, and was president of the board of regents of the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument. On August 22, 1889, General Knefler oversaw the laying of the cornerstone, but died before the monument was completed in 1902. He died on June 14, 1901, and is buried beside his wife at Crown Hill Cemetery.

Scope and Contents

This certificate measures 11" x 16 1/2", and has a gold State of Indiana seal in the lower left corner. The certificate states: "Whereas a vacancy exists in the Board of Regents of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument caused by the expiration of the term for which General Fred Kneffler was commissioned, therefore know ye that in the name and by the authority of the State aforesaid, I do hereby appoint and commission said General Fred Kneffler to serve an additional term of four years from the 10th day of May, 1899, and until his successor shall have been duly appointed and qualified." The document, which is dated May 19, 1899, was signed by Governor James A. Mount and Secretary of State Union B. Hunt.

On the back of the printed certificate, Frederick wrote in black ink his support of the U.S. and Indiana constitutions, signed and dated the statement. J. W. Morris, Notary Public, signed and sealed the document.

Arrangement

There is one document in this collection.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Ernest Knefler on 1930/10/24.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing and finding aid completed 2015/05/14 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield.

Controlled Access Headings

Personal Name(s)

- Knefler, Frederick, -1901

Subject(s)

- Certificates
- Indiana--Politics and government--19th century
- Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument (Indianapolis, Ind.)